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Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects
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Note verbale dated 30 March 2001 from the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the secretariat of the Preparatory Committee, transmitting drafting proposals on the revised draft Programme of Action (A/CONF.192/PC/L.4/Rev.1)

The Permanent Mission of the Argentine Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat and the secretariat of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and has the honour to request that Argentina's general comments on the revised draft Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (A/CONF.192/PC/L.4/Rev.1), enclosed herewith (see annex), be circulated as an official document of the third session of the Preparatory Committee.

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Annex

Drafting proposals submitted by Argentina for document A/CONF.192/PC/L.4/Rev.1

[Original: English]

Section I. Preamble

- Reinsert paragraphs 10, 16, 25 and 28 of document A/CONF.192/PC/L.4.
- Reformulate paragraph 20 (e) to read:

"Assuming responsibility for preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects."

Section II. Preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

At the national level

Paragraph 2

- Begin with the first part of paragraph 4 and rephrase as follows:

"2. To put in place adequate laws, regulations and administrative procedures to exercise effective control over ***the production of small arms and light weapons within their areas of jurisdiction and over the export, import, transit or retransfer of such weapons, in order to prevent unauthorized manufacture of and illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, or their diversion to unauthorized recipients.***"

Paragraph 4

- Include at the end of the paragraph the second part of existing paragraph 4 and rephrase as follows:

"4. ***To adopt the necessary legislative or other measures to establish as a criminal offence under their domestic law the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects in order*** to ensure that those engaged in ***such activities*** can and will be prosecuted under appropriate penal codes."

Paragraph 5

"To ensure that manufacturers apply an appropriate and reliable marking on each small arm and light weapon as an integral part of the production process. This marking should be ***a*** unique, ***reliable mark at an essential part of the weapon, and recoverable if externally erased***, should identify the country of manufacture and also provide information that enables the national authorities of that country to identify the manufacturer and serial number, so that the authorities concerned can identify and trace each weapon."

Paragraph 19

"To carry out public destruction events in the interests of awareness-raising and confidence-building."

Paragraph 20

"***To adopt steps towards*** the prohibition of unrestricted trade and private ownership of small arms and light weapons specifically designed for military purposes."

Paragraph 21

"To develop and implement, ***where they are needed and*** do not exist, effective disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes in post-conflict situations."

Paragraph 23

"To undertake public-awareness programmes to reduce the demand for small arms and light weapons, ***and to encourage voluntary disposal in order to promote and consolidate a culture of non-violence***."